

# Maids Moreton Parish Council

## Newsletter



## Summer 2023

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Let's start a conversation.

**PAUL WILDMAN** DipPFS

Financial Adviser

**M WEALTH**

*Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management*

**01280 813 120 | 07593 754093**

**paul.wildman@sjpp.co.uk**

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#### **New Pop-up Banking Hub in Buckingham**

Starting **Tuesday 4 July**, Buckingham Library will host a new 'pop up' banking hub. It will be open weekly from Tuesday to Friday. This temporary unit will remain until a permanent Banking Hub opens.

*Cllr Howard Mordue, Chair Buckingham and Villages Community Board*

## 1 Parish Council Meetings 2023

Date	Meeting type
5 July 2023	Parish Council Meeting
July, date to be confirmed	Public meeting, Walnut Drive application
August 2023	None planned
6 September 2023	Parish Council Meeting
4 October 2023	Parish Council Meeting
1 November 2023	Parish Council Meeting

### **Your Parish Councillors**

Graham Maw (Chair)

Patrick Hardcastle (Vice Chair)

Ausra Mohandas

Carolyn Cumming

Clare Hodgson

John Ingle

Kenneth McClintock

All Parish Councillors' PC emails are: [initialsurname@maids-moreton.co.uk](mailto:initialsurname@maids-moreton.co.uk)

Wild Mercury and True Vision have made a 4-part series for the BBC telling the story of the events that led up to the tragic deaths of Peter Farquhar and Ann Moore-Martin. We declined to engage with them as it seemed premature and in poor taste. The series is likely to air on the BBC in mid-July. We have been informed that whilst the series shows brief images of the real Maids Moreton, including the village sign, it does not feature the houses where Peter or Ann lived, nor any other homes in the village.

## 2 Parish Council Actions

In addition to our regular activities such as dealing with streetlights, litter and dog bins(!) – and responding to planning applications (see Section 3) – we have also been active in repairing the Scout Hut after the flood over the Christmas break and that work is now completed.

We have also spent a great deal of time dealing with the new playground and all that entails, such as securing the grants and working with the contractors. This is now in progress and the work should be completed in early July. Once it is ready, we shall open it but please note (back page!) there will be an official opening on **Friday 4 August**. If you bring your dog to this event, which is concurrent with Play Around the Parishes, please have it on a lead at all times as the children will be using the Playing Fields.

If you are at the Playing Fields to enjoy the space, which you are welcome to do, since that is their purpose, please also take away your litter rather than stuffing it into overflowing bins for someone else to clear up. This will help everyone to be able to enjoy the space.

We have done a mapping exercise of our assets, such as streetlights and litter bins, and all now have new numbers on them. We have paid for a new dog-bin at the bottom of Main St but it has not yet appeared; we are chasing this up.

Some other points to note:

- Our street lighting bill, which is not protected by a central government subsidy, has quadrupled this year and so our budget is sorely stretched;
- We had a very successful Coronation celebration event, and the rain stayed away. Many thanks to all who contributed to its success: the band, MMAA, the Scouts, the WI, MMCG, The Wheatsheaf and the volunteers who helped with the bunting, setting up the event and the substantial clearing up afterwards, all ably guided by the event Steering Committee;
- Thanks also to all who came and contributed to the successful Annual Parish Meeting, and especially to the WI for their catering – those cheese straws were particularly delicious!

### **3 Planning and Development**

#### **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Neighbourhood Plan finished its Regulation 16 consultation on 11 May; there were six comments in total received online and written. Two written comments were simply observational, while one, from a land developer, felt the plan was too prescriptive of future development. Of the online comments, two were fully supportive while the third, from a developer, was generally supportive with, again, suggestions for more flexibility on future housing development. Well, would you expect otherwise?!

The plan has now gone to the Inspector, who has started his review and will come back with comments and suggestions, probably by mid-July. All the documents, including the Community Right to Bid application and its 21 annexes, have been made available and are also on the MMPC website. If you wish to view these, open the MMPC website, select *Neighbourhood Plan* from the dropdown menu under *Projects* and then click the button *Latest Neighbourhood Plan News*. This takes you the page *Neighbourhood Plan Update*; all the files can be downloaded from the links at the foot of this page.

#### **Scott's Lane Fields**

It was hardly a surprise but nonetheless disappointing to see the application for 15 self-build properties in the field between Scott's Lane and the school. We have submitted an initial objection listing the key points where the application, in our view, breaches the Local Plan and also the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. We also pointed out that it would be inappropriate to determine this application while the NP is undergoing its examination. We shall follow this up with a more detailed objection. Many thanks to those who have made personal objections; these are very clearly focused and succinct.

We held an informal residents meeting on 15 June which drew over 50 people and were very pleased to have the support of our MP, Greg Smith, at that meeting. Site notices were posted on 19 June asking for comments by 10 July but comments after that date should also be considered until a couple of weeks before determination.

## Walnut Drive – Reserved Matters

David Wilson Homes (DWH) has now submitted a Reserved Matters application covering details of siting, design, external appearance and landscaping and discharge of Condition 22 (Biodiversity Net Gain - BNG) and Condition 8 (Construction and Environmental Management Plan - CEMP).

They have also appointed a Community Consultation specialist to engage with us. It was made clear to DWH that we, as MMPC, and our residents were only interested in genuine consultation that resulted in points raised being treated seriously, not a tick box exercise as was done previously. Jonathan Walton has now visited the site and it is expected he will be back in July. At the moment the date is not set, so please look out for posters, on Facebook and on our website. Those on our circulation list will receive an email, too.

The site notices were posted on 12 June so comments were requested by 3 July. However, comments after that will also be considered and there is still new material being added by the applicant plus, of course, there is the ongoing community consultation, which may well raise new points.

Remember, we cannot overturn the outline planning consent but our comments can, and should, influence the detailed plans and ultimate layout. The comments and objections already submitted by many residents, and some from Buckingham and Akeley, too, are excellent; please continue to comment as appropriate.

If you need help submitting a planning comment or an objection, please contact our Vice Chair, Pat Hardcastle, [phardcastle@maids-moreton.co.uk](mailto:phardcastle@maids-moreton.co.uk) or by WhatsApp / text to 07966 841652 or at 5 The Pightle, who will be happy to assist you.

The **Moreton Rd 3** planning consent for 130 houses, also called Castlemilk (*is that nae in Glasgae?!* ) has been called in by the Secretary of State. Details are on the BC planning portal (Ref. 23/00047/CIPA). Further comments will be accepted up to 26 July.



## **News from Village and Community Groups**

### **4 News from Maids Moreton CE School**

We are now approaching the final weeks of the Summer term at Maids Moreton CE School and have lots of lovely events planned for our children to enjoy. This includes our sports day, the End of Year Service, our Summer Fayre and our class assemblies.

In recent weeks we have had a number of events in school including a Fathers' Day breakfast, a rattle and hum music session with the residents at Maids Moreton Hall and a special Coronation themed day. The swimming teachers from The Swan Pool visited school to teach the children about water safety. Our playground has also been resurfaced with new markings put down for competitive sports for our older children.



In May we were delighted to discover that we had been shortlisted for the Buckinghamshire Community Engagement School of the Year Award. In June we attended an award's ceremony at Pinewood studios where we were thrilled to be announced as winners! We could not be more proud and are thrilled to have our work with the community recognised in this way. It was such an honour.

We have had another busy and successful year as our school continues to grow and expand. Next year we will have our first Year 5 class, as well as welcoming 15 new children to our Reception class. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Griffiths to our teaching team, as well as the return of Mrs Reece from maternity leave.

We look with great anticipation to the year ahead.

**Keira Ainsworth, Headteacher**



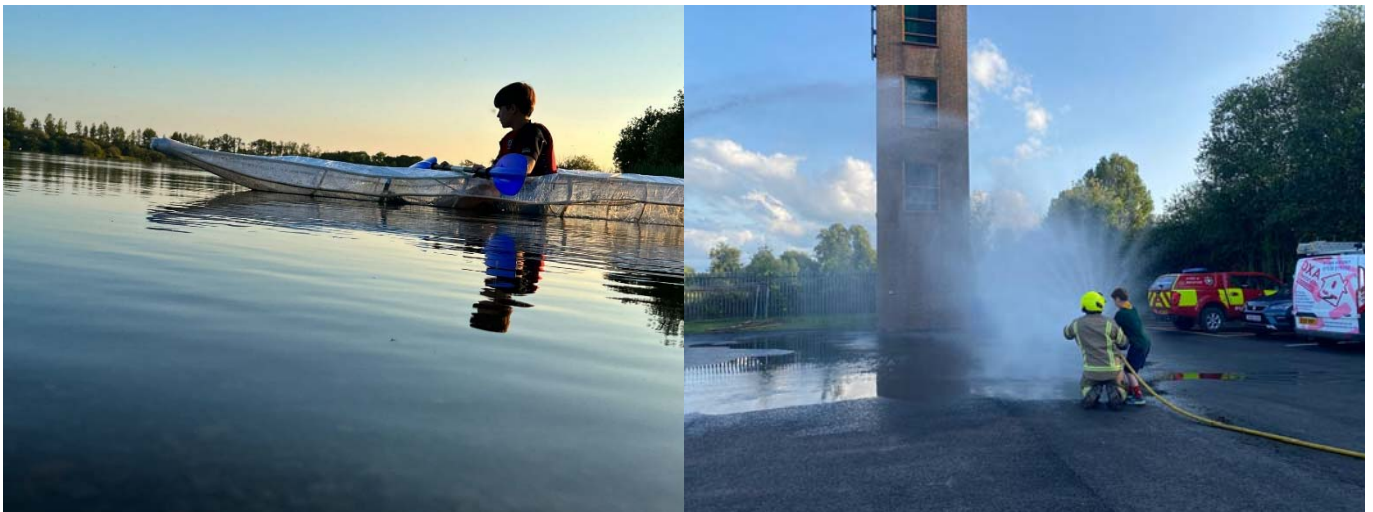
## 5 News from 1<sup>st</sup> Maids Moreton Scout Group

Here are some highlights of the last few months for our Scout Group:

### Scouts

Amongst many things this term, the Scouts have been building their own kayaks. They took them to the Great Moor Sailing Club to test them out and they floated so well they even held one of the leader team!

They also took part in an Expedition Challenge. This year, the Scouts had to plan their route to The Quarries campsite from the Maids Moreton Scout Hut, a hike of around 15km. They had to navigate and carry all their camping equipment and food. Upon arrival, they had to erect their tents, cook dinner and get a good sleep before hiking back again the next day! It was a great event on what proved to be a very hot day. The Scouts that participated all learnt a lot from the experience and had a huge sense of achievement, not to mention a few ice creams along the way. The Scouts have also been litter picking around Maids Moreton as part of their World Challenge badge.



## Cubs

The badgework for the Cub section has focused on the Disability Awareness and Gardening badges. Also, they have enjoyed a trip to the Buckingham Fire station, where they were able to test out their fire hose skills! The older Cubs took part in an Expedition Challenge. Like the Scouts, they planned their route and carried packs with their bedding and food for the night. They walked to the Scout field in Akeley, camped for the night, and then hiked back to Maids Moreton the next day. It was tiring but great fun, and there were some extra sausages and marshmallows for those that needed it! Plus, they are now ready for the move up to Scouts in September.

## Beavers

The Beavers have covered a lot of badges with their activities this term, including: identifying mini beasts, shelter building, gardening (with help from the team at Stowe), and helping with the preparations for the King's Coronation. You may also have seen the Beaver section out and about in Maids Moreton recently, cleaning the road signs and helping to make the village look fantastic.

In Volunteer Leader news, three of our team have recently obtained their Archery Instructor permits. They took part in a two-day training course and assessment so as to be able to teach archery to our Scout group, something that we will be able to do on our summer camp in Cosgrove this month.

One leader has also obtained his Air rifle Instructors permit, and will be supporting with this activity at our summer camp.

Two of our young leaders have been selected to take part in a trip to Norway in 2024. This will give them the opportunity to meet Scouts from all over the world. They will also need to raise the funds for this experience.

Finally, our most exciting development is the setting up of a new section: Squirrels, which will start in September 2023. This is for children from 4 years old. They will meet in the Scout Hut from 4:45-5:45pm on a Monday evening. You may have seen Hannah, Amy, and Cara promoting our Squirrels section at the Maids Moreton School Fayre recently, but further information and enquiries about places can be obtained from [info@1stmaidsmoretonscouts.co.uk](mailto:info@1stmaidsmoretonscouts.co.uk)

**Claire Groves**

**Group Scout Leader**

## **6 News from St Edmund's Church**

Everyone is welcome to our regular church services every Sunday morning at 10.30am, and to our weekly Community Coffee mornings every Wednesday from 10am to 12 noon.

We also have a *Messy Church* for children and their families, 4pm on the second Saturday of each month; this is a free event and children must be accompanied by an adult, please.

### **Future Events**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** there is a free BBQ outside the church from 6 to 9pm, look out for posters round the village.

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August** is our annual Summer Fete/Garden party

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September** we are holding a fund-raising quiz night in the village hall at 7pm, with a jacket potato supper.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** will be scarecrows round the village; maps and refreshments will be available in the church.

For more information, or to speak to someone, please ring the church office 01280 814430 or check the website [www.nbpchurches.org.uk](http://www.nbpchurches.org.uk)

**Everyone is welcome.**

## 7 News from Maids Moreton WI

The W.I. would like to give a big thank you to everyone who supported their refreshments at the Coronation Street Party on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. £656 was raised and this will enable the W.I. to continue to flourish and have a presence in the village.

The W.I. would also like to give a big thank you to members and the public who supported our 'Chocolate Tombola' at Maids Moreton School Fete on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

**12<sup>th</sup> July Meeting.** The Speaker will be Gillian Mason giving *A Talk on Stowe Gardens* and its future plans.

**13<sup>th</sup> September Meeting.** The Speaker will be Andy Tennet giving *A Talk on Virginia Bradford* (Silent Screen Actress)

**11<sup>th</sup> October AGM** – No speaker

Visitors are most welcome at all our Meetings.



## 8 News from Maids Moreton Cricket Club

As well as league games on Wednesdays and Saturdays, Maids Moreton Cricket Club have a host of friendlies and net sessions that are available for anyone keen in the village to get involved with. We have a few games left before the end of the season:

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July** vs Pattishall Cricket Club (Home)

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** – Net session (Stowe School)

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August** vs New Bradwell Cricket Club (Away)

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August** vs Chairman's XI (Inter club match) (Home)

If you are interested, then please contact us via the information on our website:

<https://maidsmoreton.play-cricket.com/Aboutus>

## **9 Maids Moreton Conservation Group**

Whilst the Cow Parsley in flower makes Scott's Lane look a picture, we do not want the seeds to spread. We are trying to encourage diverse wild flowers to flourish in the lane and beginning to have some success. Toadflax and Ox eyed daisies can now be spotted. Each year in the middle of June when the flowers are over and before the seed fall, we try to take out the Cow Parsley then the light can reach the plants underneath.

This year was one of our most effective as we had the help of some people with powerful strimmers. Then there are rakers and baggers and those that remove the bags that would overflow our area for cuttings. Many people who walk down the lane whilst work parties are in operation stop and thank the workers for their energy. This is always appreciated but I would also like to take this chance to thank all those involved with this year's cow parsley chop. Well done. An excellent job. Doesn't the lane look grand!

**Stevie Lishman**

**Chair - Maids Moreton Conservation Group**



## 10 News from Maids Moreton Allotments Association

### **BUSY TIMES FOR MMAA**

Gosh! Hasn't the time flown by since the Coronation Celebrations in May? MMAA were very happy to be involved with this Parish Council event and it was a great day even if it was perhaps a little chilly but thankfully, no rain. Some of us have done a lot of barbeques over the years but this was the first we catered for without knowing how many to cater for!! We hope you enjoyed whatever you had and we thank you for your patience.

Many of you will know that we are raising funds for a defibrillator on the site but this will be for the benefit of anyone in the area who may, unfortunately, have the need to help someone. Of course, we all hope it is never used but, as we know, that is unpredictable. All the profit from the barbeque and that of the Tea 'n Cakes afternoon for the planting of the oak tree for the King are towards that cause.

We are very grateful to the owners of Foscote Manor for opening their walled garden on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July** from 4 – 6pm for MMAA's fundraising for the defibrillator. It's £10 per adult. The cut-off date has been extended due to slow sales; so, why not come along to see the beautiful garden, enjoy tea and cake...and have a few games of Simon's fun bingo, if you fancy!!

Our Annual Sausage Sizzle is on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July** starting at 6pm. It is a good opportunity for people from the village to come and relax, eat, drink and look at the plots. The cost is £10 per adult and £5 per child and the cut-off date for bookings is the end of Monday 10<sup>th</sup>. Please email [maidsmoreton.allotments@gmail.com](mailto:maidsmoreton.allotments@gmail.com) to book or find out more.

Please do come and join us on **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July**, 7pm, for an interesting talk by *Whittlewood Concept* about *Biochar*. Just let us know if you would like to join us on the above email, there is no charge.

Also, do look out for details of our quiz event in the Autumn.

Our plots are looking good just now and many of us have harvested courgettes, potatoes, French beans, beetroot, rhubarb and soft fruits. However, due to the big drop in temperature recently, growth has slowed down slightly. It seems fine for courgettes, though! Here's to warmer weather coming back soon!

Enjoy the summer!

**Maids Moreton Allotments Association**

## 11 Maids Moreton Celebrates the Coronation of King Charles III



Photos: many thanks to Robert Cumming and Michael Larg





**Maids Moreton**  
**Summer Play Event...**

*Come & join the fun!*

**Friday 4th August**  
10.30am - 3.30pm

Avenue Road, Maids Moreton, Buckingham, MK18 1QA

Park opens at 10am  
BBQ will be available via the local scouts!!!

Session run by MKPA and sponsored by Maids Moreton Parish Council

**All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the session**

MP Greg Smith will officially open the new playground at 2pm

Bouncy Castle, Giant Games, Arts & Crafts Plus lots more




The Platinum oak  
being planted on  
the Playing Fields  
The tree was grown  
from a local acorn  
planted in 2018 by  
David and Jackie  
Balls

Maids Moreton Parish Council  
8 Keppel Avenue, Haversham,  
Milton Keynes, MK19 7AJ  
Parish Clerk - Adele Boughton  
Tel: 07544 751061

Email: [maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.maids-moreton.co.uk](http://www.maids-moreton.co.uk)